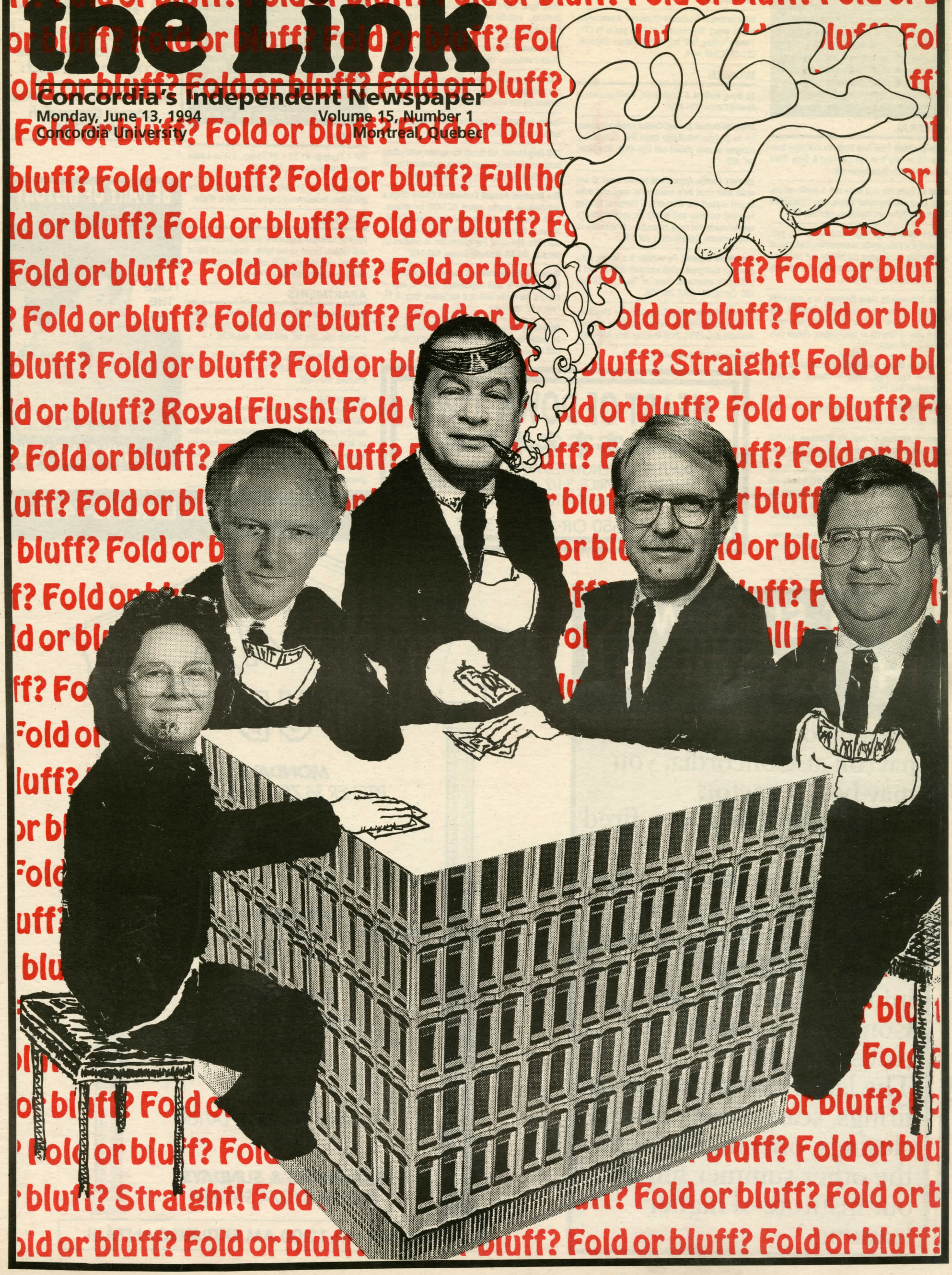
the Link

Concordia's Independent Newspaper
Monday, June 13, 1994 Volume 15, Number 1
Concordia University Montreal, Quebec


Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Full house! Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Straight! Fold or bluff? Royal Flush! Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Straight! Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff? Fold or bluff?

AGENDA

The Agenda is a free service to publicize Concordia-related events. Space priority is given to non-profit and student groups. Drop off your info at our office, room H-649 in the Hall building, or mail it, indicating AGENDA on the envelope. Deadlines are 4pm, Friday for Tuesday issues, and 4 pm Wednesday for Friday issues.

GENERAL

Undergraduate Fine Arts Students exhibition from June 10 to July 9 in the Leonard & Bina Ellen Gallery. 1400 de Maisonneuve W.

Want to have fun and raise hell & public awareness about environmental issues. Join Concordia's Wilderness Defense Committee. Info: 848-7585.

Divers Cité! brings together the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities, their friends and families to celebrate our history, our pride and our culture. Parade and celebrations to be held July 31. To volunteer, call 285-4011.

AIDS Community Care Montreal is a non-profit organization serving people with HIV/AIDS. We operate on a 99% volunteer basis. If you have skills in the area of finance or fund-raising, please contact us at 287-3551.

Concordia Queer Collective: discussion groups, summer meetings, drop-in centre, library. Information: 848-7414

Project 10 is a support group for lesbians, bi's and gays aged 14 - 25. Info: 989-1885.

Montreal Alliance of Aspiring Midwives (MAAM) welcomes enthusiastic people for group study and political action. Info: Liz, 933-1631.

Services for Disabled Students: Volunteers are needed to help us deliver many of the services our students use, such as readers, tutors, and assistants. Info: H-580, 848-3525, or AD 130, 848-3536.

Volunteers Needed! Parenthèse is a unique playgroup for immigrant moms and their children and is looking for volunteers. Tues. or Thurs. 1-4:30 pm. Info: Cyndy, 934-0354, ext. 354.

Tel-Aide is a 24-hour telephone listening service and crisis line seeking volunteers who are empathetic and non-judgemental. Training is provided. Info: 935-1105.

International Socialist Students' Association meets every Wednesday at 7:30 pm in H-771. There's nothing "left" but us. Information: Deborah, 521-1983, 848-7474.

WOMEN

24 Hour Hotline & Crisis Line, Montreal Sexual Assault Centre, 934-4504.

Montreal Sexual Assault Centre needs volunteers for its 24 hour telephone crisis line. Concerned, bilingual women should call 934-4504, 934-9354, ext. 452.

Literacy Centre. Anglophone women aged 16 and older who need help learning to read and write should contact the Women's Y. Personal tutoring services are free and based on each student's special needs. For more information, to volunteer or refer someone, call 866-9941, ext. 278.

Volunteers Needed! Parenthèse is a unique playgroup for immigrant moms and their children and is looking for volunteers. Tues. or Thurs. 1-4:30 pm. Info: Cyndy, 934-0354, ext. 354.

Don't be Whitewashed! Non-chlorine bleached, environmentally-friendly women's hygiene products available at Q-PIRG, 2135 MacKay. Info: 848-7585.

Mouvement contre le viol: 842-5040.

Support Group for young Black single moms with young children. Info: 485-1670, CLSC-NDG.

Centre des femmes de Montréal: Services de première ligne, 842-4780; Service aux femmes immigrantes, 842-0814; Option'Elle, 842-6652; Formation'Elle, 842-4776.

CLSC metro: Support Group for women living in abusive situations. Info: 934-0354, Angela Idelson.

AIDS Intervention Centre: Women living with HIV can participate in a group process. Sexuality & self-esteem are the focal points. Info: 934-0354, France.

Centre for AIDS Services for Women needs volunteers. Info: 954-0170, Basia.

Self-Help/Mutual Aid Group for women with eating problems and body image issues, sponsored by the McGill Sexual Assault Centre. Info: 398-2700.

The Montréal Assault Prevention Centre offers a self-defense course called ACTION for women. Each course provides verbal and physical techniques to help women deal with any type of aggression. Info: 284-1212. For Information on courses on campus, call the Women's Centre, 848-7431.

Women's Employment Counselling at the "Y" helps women to seek employment, return to work or explore their interests and aptitudes. Eng. & Fr. Free. Info: 866-9941.

Résidence Project Chance. Residential program for single moms on loans and bursaries or welfare. Call Susan Cross, 934-6199.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Rates: 20¢ per word for Concordia students (CUSA), 25¢ per word for other students and business ads. Deadlines are 4pm Friday for Tuesday issues, 5pm Wednesday for Friday issues. Come to room H-649 in the Hall building and fill out one of our painless forms. Hours: Mon-Fri, 10am-5pm. Ads must be accompanied by payment, or they will not run. We do NOT take classified ads by phone, fax, or mail.

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WP / Typing: $1.25 - $1.65/pg., LQ or Laser printer, Ville St-Laurent. 336-7142

Typing WP 5.1, $1.25/double-spaced page. Pick up/Deliver, Downtown or Loyola. 482-2816, Walter.

FOR SALE

Private: Oriental bookcases; marble, brass lamps; end-tables; brass cofee-table, lacquered brass plaques; teak stereo—VCR cabinet; decorator-style /livingroom chairs, dressers. 744-5728.

APARTMENTS

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WANTED

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284-5650 OR AT 849-3897

Advertise in the Link 848-7406

NOT SURE WHO THE RECTOR IS?

Hey, if you are on the payroll at Concordia, you may be the rector.
Or you may have been fired yesterday.
In today's fast-paced ivory towers, you can't tell the players without a program.
That's why the well-informed member of Concordia's community reads *the Link*.
The latest news on hirings, firings, scandalous reports, closings, openings and all the other summer fun at our institute of higher learning.

CAESARS PUB

MONDAYS
PITCHER $6.75 & CLUB $3.75

TUESDAYS
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$10.95!!!

THURSDAYS
LADIES NIGHT
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PITCHER & NACHOS PLATTER
$10.95!!!

SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS
PITCHER & PIZZA $10.95!!!

CAESARS 9:00 PM-12:00 AM EXTRAVAGANZA!!!

In through the out door of Con U's administration

by Carol McQueen

The spectre of Valery Fabrikant continues to haunt Concordia University, but the new administration plans to bury the ghost once and for all.

Concordia University has been decapitated. vice-rector, academic Rose Sheinin took her administrative leave early after not being reappointed for a second term. vice-rector, institutional relations and finance Maurice Cohen decided to resume his teaching career just when the Arthur's report suggested financial irregularities in the university's dealings with the faculty of engineering and computer science. Rector Patrick Kenniff either quit, was fired or couldn't reach an agreement with the board of governors over the terms of his extended one-year contract,depending on whom you ask. His hazy departure from office followed John Scott Cowan's written submission to Concordia University condemning the administration's dealings with Valery Fabrikant prior to his shooting rampage on August 24th, 1992. Cowan was appointed by Concordia to investigate the matter. A number of administrative assistants, including Hugh Brodie and Maureen Habib, were also dismissed.

The Cowan's report, called Lessons from the Fabrikant File and commissioned in September of 1993 to investigate how Valery Fabrikant managed to climb as far as he did within the university , condemned the administration for its lack of judgement and cohesiveness.in its dealings with the murderer.

Looking brave

But, at a press conference last Wednesday, Concordia University's new administration was sporting a brave face. Board of Governors' Chairman Reginald Groome, interim Rector and Vice-Rector, Services Charles Bertrand and interim Vice-Rector, Academic Robert Parker appeared ready for the future with the past swept under the carpet.

"A new page is to be turned in the history of Concordia University. With cooperation from all, the healing process can begin without delay," Groome said.

The eight-point plan of action he introduced is in direct response to Cowan's recommendations, but its proposals are not as stringent as what Cowan called for.

Cowan's report stated that "decisions on important or potentially controversial matters at the highest level must be collective decisions...It is important that the collectivity of the rector and vice-rectors be constituted as a body with status." The recommendation follows the report's reproach of the administration's manner of making decisions.

"It would appear that each senior officer decides in isolation about questions which arise from the line units which report ultimately to them. This results in great uncertainty for each senior officer about whether the others will support him even a mildly controversial decision," it said.

In response, Concordia's plan calls for the Office of the Rector to be reorganized "to ensure a climate of mutual trust and collegiality among its members in the decision-making and operations of the Office," indicating that a divide such as the one which separated kenniff and Sheinin would no longer to be tolerated.

In a private interview, interim rector Charles Bertrand said he thinks this atmosphere of trust will be sufficient to make the Office run smoothly.

"I think that collective unity of the rector and vice-rectors can easily be done in an informal sense and even in a formal sense if we ensure that there is collegiality among the members of that Office," he said.

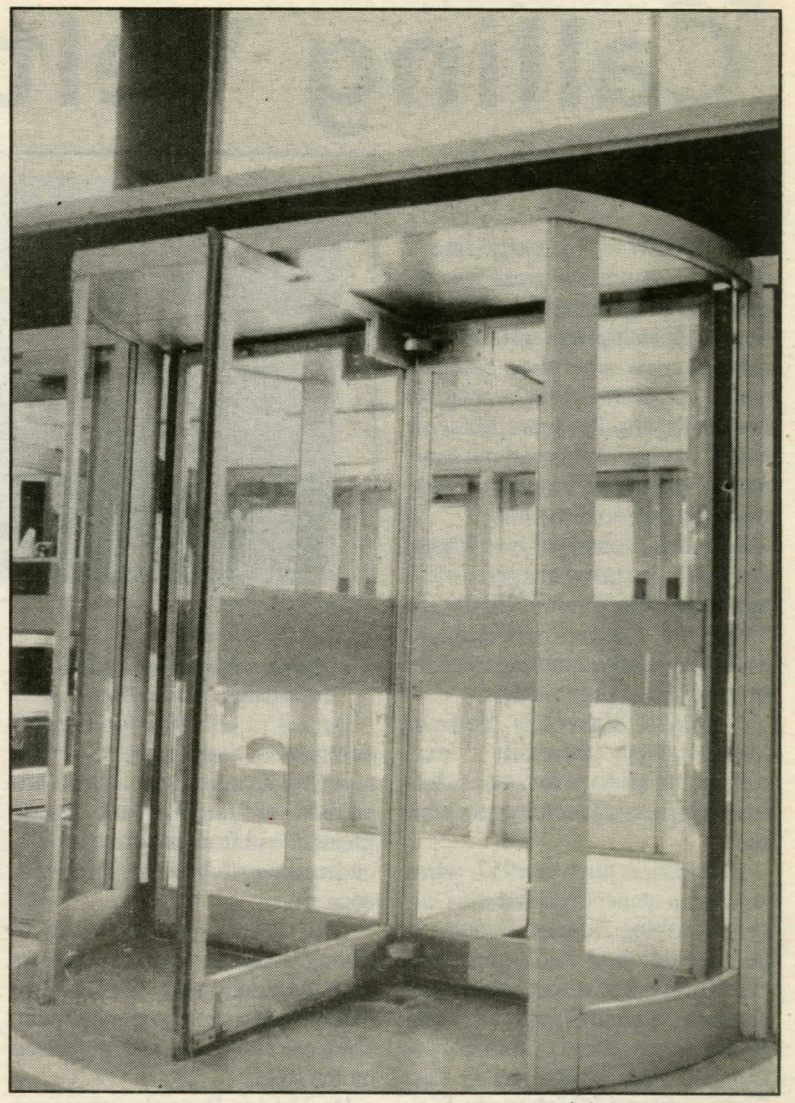

photo by Genevieve Napier

Kenniff's Departure

In response to Cowan's recommendation that the rector be placed "more fully in the day-to-day business of the institution," the University proposes to "reduce the size of the rector's Staff for greater efficiency and economy."

When asked if such a provision might give the rector too much individual power, Bertrand responded "no." He does not think such a provision would give the rector undo power. Bertrand said he hopes to avoid committing the same mistakes as previous rectors.

"It is not so much a question of more control, but rather that the rector know more about what is happening, and not have people going off and doing things and saying 'oh, maybe I should have told the rector that I was going to do this.' I don't look at it as control as much as I do as knowledge," he said.

Bertrand also shed light on what happened to Kenniff.

"The executive officers of the Board started in January, 1994 to talk with Dr. Kenniff about possible terms for a final year, and could not reach and agreement as late as the middle of May. And they had by that time become convinced that the extension of Kenniff's contract was not a good idea," Bertrand said.

He would not comment on why these executive officers felt the extension was not a good idea, but he spelled out the severance package. Kenniff is to receive a year's pay and to have his interest-free loan of $235,000 paid off.

As the Cowan's report recommends, Concordia's plan of action also calls for the drafting of a code of ethics to regulate behavioural norms and conduct, as well as for leadership training for staff appointed to administrative positions.

"It will take, I would think, six months to study the overall administrative structure and come up with recommendations...That's not something you want to rush into. There has to be wide consultation on those kinds of changes," Bertrand said, "And, it does not mean we will follow precisely what Cowan recommended, but that we will certainly look at the overall structure in light of that recommendation and then recommend to the Board [of Governors] changes that we feel appropriate.

Looking to the future

With regard to students, Chairman Groome was adamant that they would not be affected by the wrangling at the top.

"Conflict at the upper level does not affect interrelationships between faculty and students in any fundamental way. Students graduating next week are well-educated, responsible individuals," he said.

But Bertrand admitted that Fabrikant's allegations may have shed light on some of Concordia's student-teacher relations.

"There are instances certainly where I think certain professors are

cont'd on page 10

Students worry about Concordia's reputation

by Jennifer Ditchburn

While Concordia's skeletal administration waxed rosy about the future of the university, students weren't so sure. The Arthur's report, released last Tuesday, told the grim tale of a "production-driven research culture", where professors in the Engineering and Computer Science department allegedly misappropriated research credit, and spent more time on outside contracts than on pedagogy.

Concordia's scandals made national news, and now students are worried about the impact.

"Because of all the negative publicity, I have to disagree, with all due respect to Reginald Groome, that there hasn't been a tarnishing of the University," said Marika Giles, president of the Concordia Student Union. "We have to worry about getting sponsors for Orientation. If you were a sponsor, who would you pick? McGill or Concordia?"

The "Integrity in Scholarship" report, chaired by H.W. Arthurs, Roger A. Blais and Jon Thompson, addresses Valery Fabrikant's allegations of improprieties within the engineering department. While some of Fabrikant's accusations were unfounded, others unfortunately hit the mark.

"...It is particularly disappointing that they (Profs. S. Sankar, T.S. Sankar and Swamy) should have indulged themselves in the conduct in which they have variously engaged: conflicts of interest, other contractual irregularities, excessive outside work, and misappropriation of authorial credit," Arthurs concludes.

While Arthurs makes the point that Concordia is just a ripe example of what exists in most (if not all) university milieus in Canada, Concordia still bore the brunt of public scrutiny.

Mark Hogben had his share of TV cameras and tape recorders stuck in his face this week, asked to comment on reports which may have prevented the shooting death of his father, had they been conducted before the incident.

Hogben is optimistic about the university's commitment to change, but disappointed at how the university handled the reports. Controversy surrounded the public release of the documents, which the university wrangled over for weeks while the media waited in the wings.

"The situation in the engineering department is not a gigantic issue really, but has been turned into one. If they had done things in a cleaner way they wouldn't have tarnished Concordia's reputation," he said.

Daniel Leibu, president of the Engineering and Computer Science Students Association, is also critical of the administration's treatment of the situation.

"ECA received the reports at the same time as the general public, which we found difficult to deal with. It was unfortunate we weren't involved in the release," Leibu said.

After the publicization of the reports, several engineering graduate students sent an open letter to the rector's office to express their concern over the possible damage to Concordia's reputation, and consequently their futures.

"...it is sincerely hoped that the innocent student community will not be victimized in the crossfire and the authorities would safeguard their interests," the letter reads.

Leibu says the worries are justi-

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Calling Yeltsin a fool in print

By Carol McQueen

MOSCOW—The party line—that's the stance the press was required to adopt in the Soviet Union. State censorship was unforgiving. Editors knew what they could or could not print if they wanted to keep their jobs. For years, Moscow State University churned out journalists who were trained to write what the state told them to.

Perestroika changed everything. Gradually, the press was given more and more liberty until, finally, in 1993, the Russian government passed legislation granting freedom of the press to print media.

Yassen N. Zasurskiy, dean of Moscow State University's Journalism Department for over a decade, experienced the change for himself.

He recounts how, in 1957, when American students cabled the University asking Russian students if they would go to Red Square and call Khrushchev a fool while they similarly insulted Eisenhower at the White House. Russian students responded they would go to Red Square and call Eisenhower a fool.

"Now anyone anywhere can cry out Yeltsin is a fool," he said jubilantly.

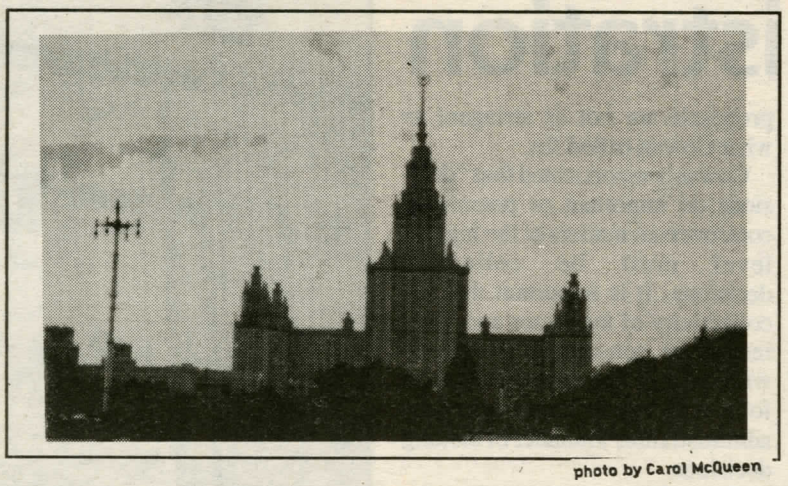


photo by Carol McQueen

Dependency on state subsidies, and others...

But all is not rosy for Russian newspapers and magazines. Economic difficulties and lack of advertising are forcing many to seek financial aid from the government, undermining their shot at independence.

"The state is still interested in having a say in what newspapers say," Zasurskiy said, "At least two dailies belong to the government. They are controlled and supported by the state."

He blames Russia's precarious economic state for the press' dependency on state subsidization

"Printing shops and the distribution system are still state owned and inefficient. It costs 800,000 rubles (600 dollars U.S.) per pound of newsprint. That's expensive." he said.

Zasurskiy also says that newspaper sales are down. It is not difficult to understand why.

"The price of newspapers is three times higher than what it used to be under Communism," he said.

Elena Vartanova, a journalism teacher in the department, also believes that Russia's powerful Mafia has enough power to influence the press.

"Mafia money could be very important for several publications," she said, "Some journalists and publications are probably bribed to be positive toward new businessmen who have ties to the Mafia.

"It is also difficult to find the sources of financing for some newspapers. Illegal or black money may have been used."

Vartanova is certain bribes and black market hard currency were a major component in press campaigns during the recent elections.

Learning the skill of advertising

Although still in its infancy, advertising is slowly becoming an important factor for the cash-strapped media.

"Some people and some companies are interested in advertising," said Svetlana Kolesnik who also teaches journalism. "Our market is very special. Only a few companies, such as banks, are ready to advertise."

Vartanova agrees that the media has a long way to go before it can be completely independent and financially stable.

"Advertising is very underdeveloped as it would be in any underdeveloped economy," she said, "We haven't yet started to study how an audience looks at advertising. We must direct our advertising toward the consumer."

During the Communist regime, only two state channels existed. Now more are popping up, mostly news and entertainment channels.

Kolesnik thinks these new stations will have better luck in attracting big foreign advertisers such as Pepsi and Mars, for they can reach a market of 150 million, compared to the smaller local newspaper markets.

"People pay taxes for state owned channels," Kolesnik said, "Now they must watch through ads. And the advertising produced abroad does not reflect the reality of our country."

But Kolesnik knows advertising is necessary for survival.

"The state is not so rich now. It cannot support channels. It can only provide 42 percent of the money needed to run a television station," she said.

Kolesnik added that television and radio would be able to expand more quickly if it weren't for the state's neglect in regulating public broadcasting.

Regardless of the uncertainties now faced by the press, Zasurskiy, Vartanova and Kolesnik say they are much happier now than they were before.

"Journalists were born to think a lot," said Kolesnik, "Now our talented students will go far."

Native students centre takes new direction

by Jennifer Dales

Not long after the Oka stand-off between Mohawks and the Canadian Army had ended in the fall of 1990, a group of Concordia native students from across Canada began meeting regularly at a coffee shop near the Hall building. The result was the Native Student Centre on Mackay, and the Concordia Council on First Nations Education (CCFNE).

This year the centre has a new name and its first official director.

Gerald Alfred, currently an assistant professor in the Political Science department, is a 28-year old ex-marine, Cornell University graduate hailing from Kanawake.

Alfred said the centre has changed its focus, with the CCFNE acting only as an advisory board.

According to him, the new centre, now called the Centre for Native Education, will not try to do as its predecessor, the CCFNE, did—namely, try to help students feel as comfortable in Montreal as they might have felt at home. He said the centre, which attracts 30 to 40 students regularly during the school year, will do everything it can to help students, but it will not take responsibility for their social adjustment.

"The Centre for Native Education is an indication of what our purpose is: native education. It's a centre aimed at giving native students at Concordia a place to form a community, and access the resources and support they need to succeed."

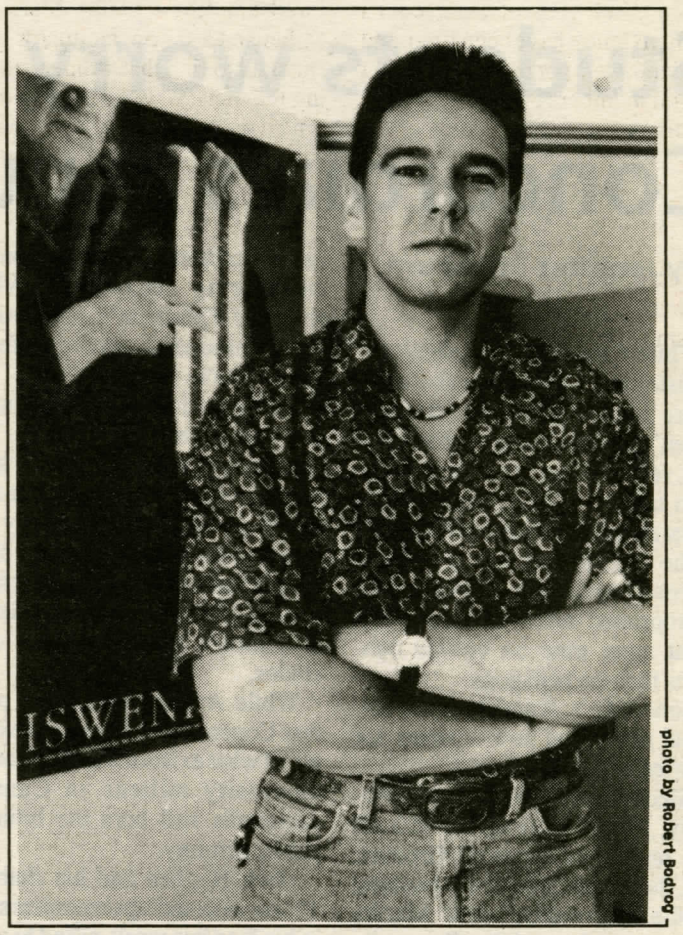
"Most of the people at Concordia are here because they want to succeed in a mainstream discipline," Alfred said. "I'd rather see native people come in, succeed within established disciplines, and bring awareness of native issues to their programs."

Alfred cites substandard primary education, administered by churches or the Department of Indian Affairs, as a problem shared by some native students. But he added that native students suffering from this difficulty are a minority, as many non-natives have the same problems with basic skills.

"I've taught at Concordia for two years, and I see just as many non-native students with writing and reading problems, so I wouldn't characterize the native students as set apart," Alfred said. "I guess the only thing that would differentiate the native student from the non-native in terms of problems is in identifying with their culture—feeling like their efforts are going to have some degree of influence on their own community."

While there are ten courses currently being offered at Concordia which contain native subject matter, the university is still far from matching the native studies programs in other universities across Canada.

"There is no real commitment on the part of this university to support the idea that people need to have an education that is relevant to their communities," Alfred said. "Concordia University donates space for us to use, but the centre is completely funded by government and outside sources. We don't receive a penny of funding from the university itself."



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Hall Building, Room 649
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.
Montreal, Quebec. H3G 1M8
editorial: 848-7405• business: 848-7406
fax: 848-4540

editor
Ingrid Hein
production manager
Chae Dickie-Clark
news editors
Jennifer Ditchburn
Carol McQueen
features editor
Open
literary editor
Sarah Bowles
archivist
Daria Gamliel

sports editors
Marie-Chantal Côté
Frank Ivancic
fringe arts editors
Jon Richler
Sean Moore
photo editor
Robert Bodrog
Phil Carpenter
graphics editor
Open
CUP editor
Open

business manager
Alice O'Brien
business assistant
Charlene Nero
advertising sales
Anuska Garcia
Charlene Nero
advertising design
Mark Brooker
distribution
Gaurav Chandra
Ita Kendall

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Contributors

Tony Cato,Lulu,
Danny Chan,
Jennifer Dales, Fay Finkelstein,
Paul Hainsworth, Debbie Hum,
Genevieve Napier,
Jeff Nearing, Dana Schoel,
Roddy Weatherbie,

Con U Women's Centre shut-up and shut-down

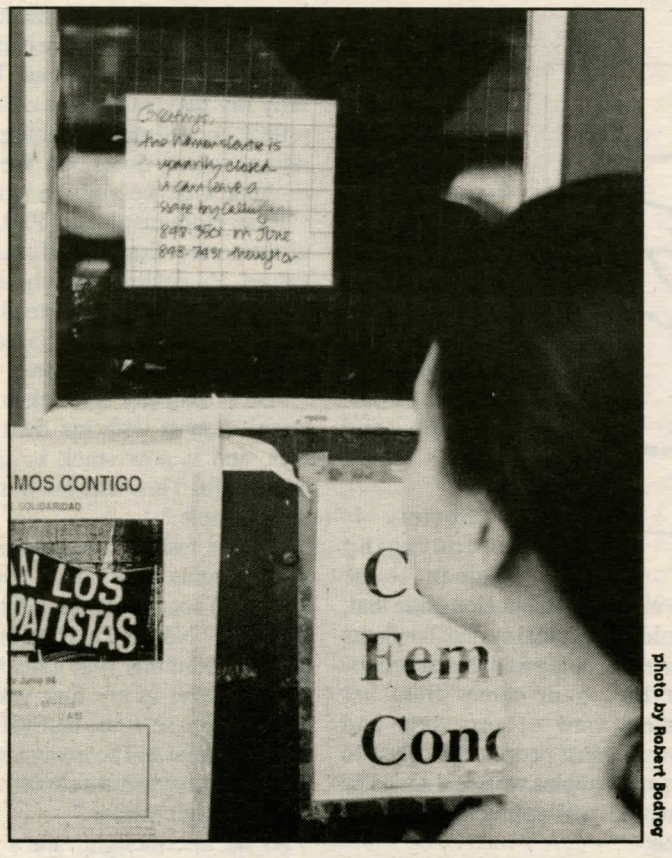


photo by Robert Bodrog

by Jennifer Ditchburn

Five employees of Concordia's Women Centre have been fired, and the Centre temporarily closed after several members called for the resignation of its coordinator.

Eight women, forming part of the Centre's collective, brought forward their request for Margo Lacroix' resignation on April 25, stemming in part from what they considered her inability to adequately address racism within the Centre.

In a letter dated May 3 and sent by Advocacy and Support Services director Ann Kerby, the women were advised that the Centre was to be temporarily closed, all part-time positions terminated, publication of the Women's Centre AGENDA suspended, and the resignation request denied.

The women affected by the decision have composed a letter of protest which they plan to circulate to other women's centres across the country.

"It is imperative that women and lesbians make Concordia University accountable for these actions against women of colour and white women who wanted to work towards creating an anti-racist feminist space," the letter reads.

The trouble leading up to the resignation request began in earnest after the last woman of colour at the Centre, Naomi Matsushita, quit her job. She would be the second woman of colour to resign in as many months.

On March 25, part-time coordinator Elizabeth Milan helped cofacilitate a workshop on critical thinking. Women at the Centre had already been involved in unlearning racism workshops during the year. Fired employee Elaine Mari said Milan and a fellow facilitator were shocked to find that women attending the meeting were unable to admit their racism, and therefore to deal with it accordingly. Milan resigned after the meeting.

Matsushita left shortly after Milan, because of what she describes as a dehumanizing atmosphere at the Centre.

"The atmosphere was just so incredibly hostile, and I made them (white women) so uncomfortable," Matsushita said. "I thought I was going crazy. Nothing was being done there."

According to Mari and Matsushita, the Centre was subsequently mired in an atmosphere of denial by white women. They claim Lacroix "quashed" any attempts to address the issue of Milan and Matsushita's departures, including a proposed Womyn's AGENDA item confronting racism in the Centre.

While Mari, Matsushita and others wanted to make it obligatory for new employees at the Centre to take the responsibility for unlearning racism, in whatever way they chose to, Kerby disagreed with their approach.

"The issue of white women racism is a huge one, and it requires a professional facilitator to deal with it," Kerby said. "We don't dictate how women should confront it. There are all sorts of women coming into the Centre at different levels of maturity, and we have to treat each person individually. This is the ideology of student services and therefore of the Centre."

Lacroix, unavailable for comment, sent a letter to women at the Centre dated April 8, responding similarly to their requests.

"I know that some white women at the Centre feel that we must bear the entire blame for that evening, and that to ackowledge this is the way out of "denial"...I think that we must move away from self and mutual blaming, accept our right share of responsibility, and move forward," she writes.

Rocky Marriage of Hierarchy and Collective

Lacroix took a week off shortly afterwards, which Matsushita called a lack of commitment to combatting racism, since she left in 'mid-crisis.' It was during this time that eight members of the collective drafted a detailed letter outlining their reasons for wanting Lacroix out.

But Kerby says other women she spoke to at the Centre did not agree with the assessment of Lacroix' judgement and direction. She added that the members misunderstood the relationship between the Centre and the administration. Lacroix is employed by the university, Kerby explained, and the collective cannot demand her resignation.

"The collective is not the operating basis of the Centre, otherwise it would not be part of Student Services," Kerby said. "...There has to be an agreement that if you work within the Centre you have to conform to the policies of student services."

Mari and Matsushita disagree:

"What we're looking at is two different kinds of bodies trying to run the Centre. While fully understanding it, from our position she (Lacroix) is responsible and accountable to the collective," Matsushita said. "That's why we felt justified in asking for her resignation."

Kerby says the problems with the Women's Centre stem from its transition from being a CUSA club to coming under administrative funding.

"I feel as though I set her (Lacroix) up to go against the collective," Kerby said. "We have a built in contradiction: a hierarchal structure and a collective. How will they get along? I want to take some time out, and see what works and what does not."

The Centre is scheduled to reopen in early July. According to Kerby, the Centre was to be closed for renovation this summer, as well as during Lacroix's month-long vacation. She added that half of the employees who were terminated would not be returning to school, and that most worked shifts of about six hours.

But Mari says losing her employment was devastating.

"I just got my job. It's not just a little extra money on the side. It means the difference between paying my rent or scrounging from my friends," Mari said.

Mari added that the Centre remained opened last year during the summer, regardless of whether Lacroix was on vacation.

Neither Mari nor Matsushita say they'll feel welcome there again.

"We tried to take an anti-racist stance and deal with the situation and we we were fired," Matsushita said.

Good riddance Cohen, support staff cheer

by Danny Chan

The departure of Maurice Cohen, vice-rector of institutional relations and finances, might signal the end of a contract negotiations deadlock between the university and Concordia's support staff union, according to CUSSU president Danièle Berthiaume.

"With the vice-rector gone, we hope the next few days (of negotiations) will be fruitful," said Berthiaume.

Since 1992, CUSSU and the university have been negotiating the union's first collective agreement. During negotiations, former Vice-Rector Cohen was adamant about a "mid as max" plan whereby the current midpoint in each support staffers salary scale would become the maximum possible salary.

When hired, support staff members are classified in one of 20 pay scales based on qualifications and experience. They initially earn the minimum salary and eventually the midpoint salary, and ultimately the maximum salary for a particular pay scale.

But the university wishes to establish the midpoint salary as the maximum for each scale. Berthiaume said over half of the members are currently earning the midpoint and the university's proposal will effectively deny them of a salary increase.

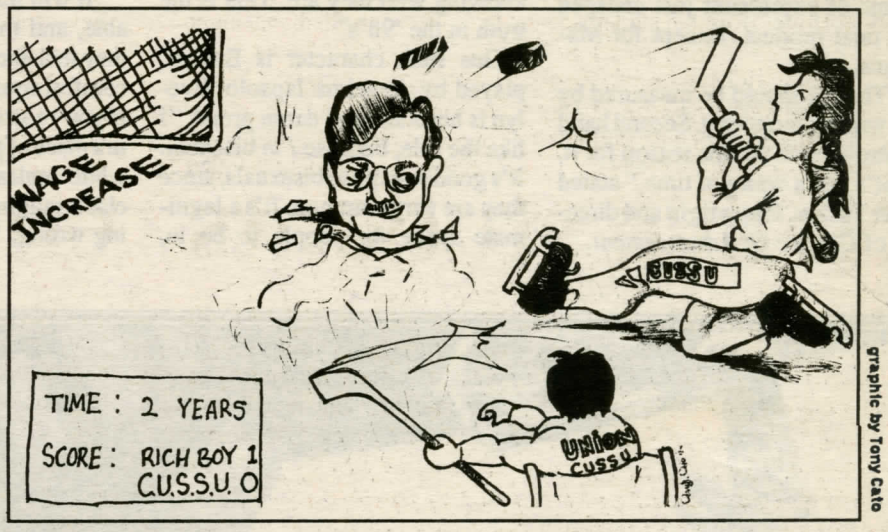
Berthiaume also said gender discrimination is a factor because 80 per cent of the 500 support staff employees are women. English professor Judith Herz recently sent a letter of protest to the administration in regards to the situation.

During the next round, the union wants to dismiss the university's claim that salaries of Concordia support staff should be similar to those of other Quebec universities. Concordia requires its support staff to hold a Cegep DEC, be bilingual, and have knowledge of computer software. Most support positions at other universities do not have these requirements. Pressure tactics by support staff employees have included not answering the phones for one or two-hour periods and writing letters of protest to Cohen. One leaflet distributed around campus listed Cohen's annual pay raises, contrasted against the support staff's frozen wages.

But their methods have drawn criticism. Christopher D. Hyde, director of university advancement, has reprimanded the union for boycotting Concordia's Annual Giving Campaign. Hyde maintains the union's protests are misdirected, and that the Campaign provides funds to crucial areas such as scholarships and library materials.

Further negotiations are scheduled for June 15, 16, 21, and 22 and with Cohen gone, Berthiaume hopes his replacement will be more flexible in the negotiations.

"We hope that now, there will be better people who will talk and will negotiate," said Berthiaume.



graphic by Tony Cato

Does controversy=high calibre?

by Jon Richler

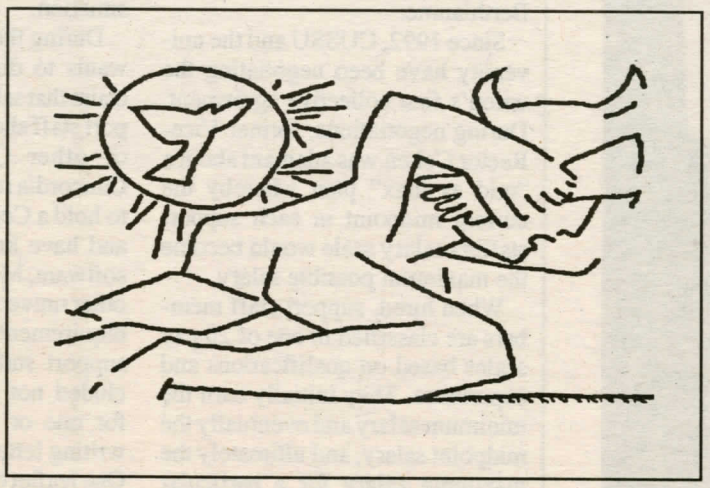
The Montreal Fringe Festival always has a lot to offer, as far as obscure and amateur theatre go, and '94's installment will be no different. Theatre groups from all around North America are visiting, alongside Montreal's veteran and beginner groups. Any good theatre piece will offer points of interest to consider in our day to day lives, whether it's about ourselves, those around us, or our future as a community. Recently, Concordia put on Brad Fraser's*Unidentified Human Remains and The True Meaning of Love* that the media condoned as being too outrageous in its content. Too smutty, too graphic in its' depiction of sexuality. That's our sexuality that was blasted to pieces by Generation Y: Y for "Yawn, we love the comfort zone."

The theatre world is just another medium to express thought that concern us. Controversy around mediums of expression just cheapen the final product. Except for Madonna.

"Theatre should be measured by the writing and acting. Second hand controversy is not the reason for it. That's just a waste of time," stated John Tucker, Playwright and director of *Chance Of Advancement*.

Jean-Paul Brosseau's *Heat*, and Steve Galllucio's *Sexual Success In Montreal* are two plays in the festival that are sure to disturb many audience members, and open new paths of thought when it comes to dealing with the sexuality of peers and onesself.

In *Heat*, a young man comes to terms with his orientation, and its' results ripple outward to those around him. Brosseau does not see the story as controversial, since it is autobiographical. He expects many will come to see the play because of the mature subject matter, but in his mind, this is a good thing, since many do not know about, or have come to terms with homosexuality.



"There are stereotypical characters in the play, but also some who are comfortable knowing who they are. This is the truth in the '90's"

One such character is Evelyn, played by Angelina Iapaolo. Evelyn is bisexual, and damn proud. "I like the role, because *I'm* bisexual. It's good to expose bisexuals, since they are very common. It's a legitimate space for people to be in, neither gay nor straight. Certain people will be uncomfortable with it, but the fringe crowd should expect transgressive subject matter."

Iapaolo sees nothing but good gains coming from shocking audiences with what *Heat* portrays and parodies.

"It will make people uncomfortable, and they'll think about why they feel uncomfortable. A place of comfort equals a place of privelage. If you're straight and white, you're in a place of privilage. Most straight white males ask what everybody else is ragging about. They see nothing wrong. You must be concious of others, whether or not their actions directly affect you. Racism and homophobia is our problem, because we perpetuate it."

Four women come to terms with their sexuality in Gallucio's *Sexual Success.*. Each one goes through a major inner change. Marylin, played by Nöelle Therrien, has a guilt complex derived from sex. Where in this play, there is no nudity, and less harsh laanguage, the myths debunked are just as immovable and difficult to see over.

"Society is encouraging women to be free in the '90's, but alongside that, the old patriarchial system condems women for being free sexual beings. Marylin's guilt comes from her mothers view of sex: dirty and wrong." Most people can relate to this, and females who feel sexually repressed will appreciate the outcome:

"She overcomes this and takes responsibillity for her own impulses and actions. I can be a sexual being and a strong woman, free of condemnation, just like the male can. All women want to have this freedom."

Similarly, Brosseau feels that if his and others' action are not hurting anybody, why can't he do it?

"A lot of my friends are comfortable with their sexuality, and hopefully my play will allow others to reflect on the moral placings and ratings society doles out. We must re-think what we've been taught."

Ryan Hollyman plays Phil, who is the perfect example of society's values. He declines his choices to change or grow, and instead goes along with the standard value system in order to be accepted.

"He's basically a chicken who wasn't honest with his own feelings, and is now stuck in an unhappy life. This will hit home to some people."

So this festival contains ideals and thoughts that hover "on the fringe" of society. Is this a dangerous thing? Nöelle Therrien is very excited about this year's festival.

"Iv'e never in my four years of participation seen the festival have such potential and so many ideas in it. That's what theatre should do. It makes it high caliber."

As an afterthought, she's "just glad that it's not me getting naked this time."

photo by Genevieve Napier

Hey everybody! Do your part to save Foufounes Electriques! As you may know, this Montreal landmark is in danger of being rubbed out by the Quebec Government. They just don't realize what it will do to the raging youth of our city! Don't riot, but party in protest. On June 15, Foufounes will be having a public manifestation protest, in which a huge flatbed truck will make its way, along withall of us pedestrian protesters, to 1 Notre Dame Est. Once there, Vilain Pingouin, the residents of the flatbed, will jam for the judges, and we can all scream our thoughts. The louder the better! Over 10,000 signatures have already been added to the petition, but there's room for more. The deadline is Jun 16. For more info, call 845-5484.

Why the Vice Rector Academic is an artist and Roy Lichtenstein shouldn't be

by Jeff Nearing.

Firstly, congrats (maybe) go out to former Dean of Fine Arts Robert Parker, who has been recently appointed interim Vice Rector, Academic. The Concordia administration paper *Thursday Report* put the entire promotion in beautiful perspective over it's last two issues. First, it reports Parker has been replaced by Christopher Jackson and Parker is going on a years leave.

I hope he didn't pack, because the following week he got the golden handshake from the Board of Governors, and *voila* he is now one of the top three administrators at Concordia.

Funny month, June is.

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Pop art was a huge success in the sixties and seventies, and the baby boomers are reliving it this summer at the Museum of Fine Arts on Sherbrooke Street West.

The show is a traveling retrospective of Roy Lichtenstein' styilized comic/manga paintings that pay tribute to the comic books of the fifties and sixties.

Some people in the comics end of the arts are a bit miffed with Roy and his identical enlargements of comic panels, some of the work being done by the early master of the field. Comic professionals like Ditko, Kurtzman and Kirby have had their works inspire Lichtenstein's, but no credit would seem forthcoming.

I used to think the important difference in the respectability of Lichtenstein's art was in its scarcity. The ten cent comics that had these images in them are now rare, but Lichtenstein's work was rather singular, and inspired much more aesthetic attention.

Well, not anymore. You can purchase Lichtenstein mugs, T-shirts and posters now. I suspect that the fine merchandising will include sixties co-ed dolls with pull strings, who murmur "Maybe he's at the studio, sick and can't leave." or the ever popular "BRAKKA

BRAKKA BRAKKA"

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For those of you whose idea of pop only extends to music, then there was a show built for you. *Image Makers Rock 'n' Roll* was to be seen at Room 150 in Westmount Square. Not usually an art space, the place was laid out like a trade fair, and most of the works there fitted the atmosphere.

Ron Wood is best known as a member of the Rolling Stones, and his artistic status in that regard will definitely go unchanged. The show contains several of his works ranging from a Warholian print of several different coloured Elvis', to a thoughtful yet bland pastel of Eric Clapton in his famous unplugged position.

Other things of note is a poster design the Beetles all had a hand in, a wonderful print of a David Bowie painting, and some of the quirky sketches of John Lennon give credibility to his fame as an *artiste*.

The Montreal Museum of Contemporary Art has a beautiful show for the art going public this summer. The infamous Lavalin collection is back on the walls.

This glorious collection of paintings, sketches and sculpture was assembled over three decades by the Lavalin corporation ,which had to sell it off in the late eighties in order to finance its crippling debt. The Quebec Government stepped in and forked out several million dollars to keep the works in the province. The Museum stores and preserves the works, and has now hung 134 of them for the public to see.

Most of the work has its origins in Quebec. The selections being shown now offer one a tour through the history of Quebec painting from Confederation to the Post-Modern. The breadth of experimentation involved in these works shows an incredible artistic community with a glorious past and cultural heritage.

Rather than finding the works too provincial, it was shocking to see many Quebec works reflecting what was happening in other artistic centers. It was very reassuring to see Quebec and Canadian artists exploring post-painterly abstract expressionism at the same time as the circle surrounding Clement Greenberg in New York in the forties and fifties.

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Finally, the Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery (what a handle) in the McConnell building (the one with the library, downtown) is featuring the works of Undergraduate students in the Fine Arts. It hasn't opened yet, as this goes to press.

The works have been selected by a jury of professors and the galleries curators, and will be a great cross section of the many talented artists who toil away at this University with little or no recognition.

It would seem though that the Gallery is only going part way with their exposé of student talent. If any of you have been to the McConnell building lately, you will realize that the place stands deserted most days of the week, and the artists involved would have done much better to be shown when there would be more students under foot. Perhaps next year the Gallery could try harder to hold this particular show later in the year to boost the visibility of its art students and its visual arts program.

Maybe our new Vice Rector Administration has a word or two about that.

Lollapalooza: Bring a credit card

by Jon Richler

Luscious Jackson

Let's talk summer shit. '94 will cater to just about everybody out there who need their own thing. Mtl. has Trendy Tam-Tam, enjoyed by thousands through the years, and now the MUC can play frisbee, too. We have the Gay Pride Parade, the Fringe Fest, the New Film & Cinema Fest, and the cheapest passtime ever: people watching. In this vein, there will be one event on July 27 that will possibly be the best time to body-gaze, but it'll cost you around 30 bucks. Lollapalooza will grace our city for the first time in four years. This installment promises a truckload of fun, so let's forgive Mr. Farrel for waiting so long to visit our politically confused city.

The main acts are on everyone's lips already, so direct your attention to the second stage, which, as usual, will open many music afficionados eyes to raw new tuneage. At *Place des Nations*, once a venue for the likes of Ray Charles and James Brown, you will see and hear the next "outside of the mainstream" mainstream sounds. No **Pumpkins** psychedelic fuzz or old school **Clinton** funk cruises.

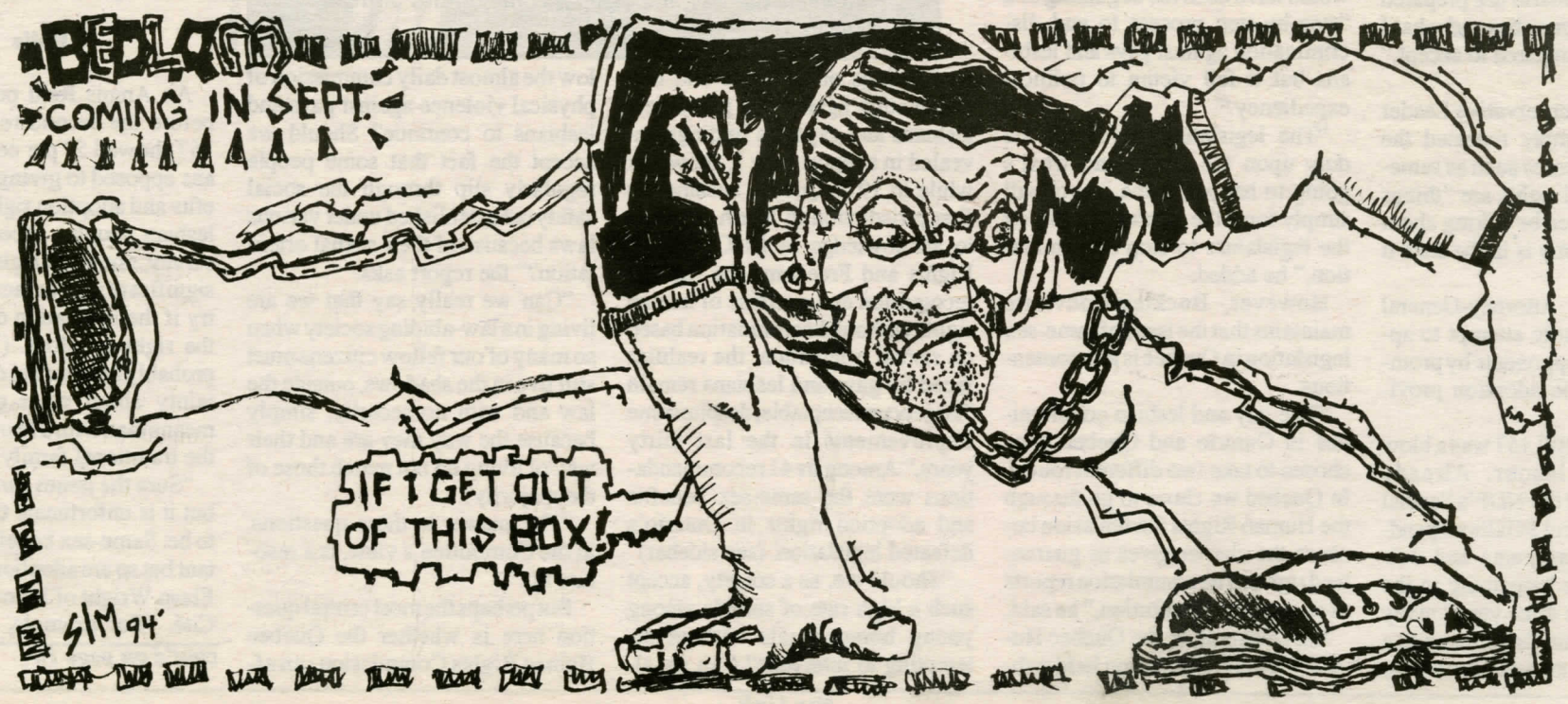
Instead, discover New York's **Girls against Boys**, a four-piece dual bass band that delivers a dark sound oozing with feedback, repeating, and layered sound waves. **Luscious Jackson**, Grand Royal's baby, will be offering their smooth Hip Hop blues style developed on *In Search Of Manny EP*, plus new cuts from the upcoming LP, *Natural Ingredients*. **The Verve** are ultra-accessible in their rhythmic beats and eerie guitar ramble-sounds, and are not to be missed. File them in under Mature Manchester Sound. Lastly, Oaklahoma's **The FLaming Lips**, who've been around since '85, have been pinned "pop noise", but I prefer sleep-around-background-heat-music, with great thought processes. But don't take my word for it.

That said, the Lollapalooza Village is worth a good few hours visit, since the show runs from 3 till 11PM. Here, artisans from around the world sell their arts, crafts, clothing and collectibles. The village will take up one acre of land, and the important part to remember is that local artists will be present to contribute to the Items Of Interest sale.

This year, the theme is Cybercommunication, which is appropiate since Montreal plays in the Internet playground. Dozens of computer teminals will be available for on-line talks with whoever is on the other end. Two terminals will allow you to talk to the Lollapalooza talent, as well. Expect La Ronde-style lineups for them. Praise Perry Farrel, because you no longer have to save up for a trip to Disneyland to use interactive TV. He's gonna bring it here!

The Gazebo will have spoken word pieces and acoustic performers, where one can absorb it all in a provided shade tent. Open mic, poetry slams, and full contact discussions will happen in the Mind Field, so don't take too much drugs, if you want to participate.

Tickets are available at all outlets, and the best transportation to and from is the metro.



Same-sex Discrimination

by Debbie Hum

Ontario gays and lesbians are denied basic human rights on moralistic, outdated arguments

The defeat Thursday night of the Ontario government's same-sex legislation ended a three-week political battle over the full recognition of gay and lesbian relationships. The New Democratic Party's Bill 167 would have amended 55 provincial laws to finally extend employment rights such as sick leave, pensions and medical plan coverage to same-sex couples and would have redefined the word "spouse" to include a partner of either sex, allowing gays and lesbians to adopt children as couples.

The NDP, traditionally supported by progressives and labour, has maintained that same-sex legislation is necessary to ensure that Ontario laws comply with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

"Our government regards this issue as one of fundamental human rights. The time to end discrimination is now," asserted Attorney-General Marion Boyd following the bill's introduction, on May 19.

But her words were downplayed by the governing NDP's struggle to convince Ontario MPPs to end discrimination against gays and lesbians. Bill 167 survived its first reading by a narrow 57 to 52 margin. Indeed, 10 New Democrat MPPs broke from their caucus to vote against the bill in the recorded vote. Twenty of the 24 Liberals and 19 of the 22 Tories present also rejected it.

Liberal leader Lyn McLeod opposed same-sex legislation because it would change the definition of family. "The bill goes beyond what the people of Ontario are prepared to accept and it goes beyond what I am personally prepared to accept," McLeod said.

Opposition Conservative Leader Mike Harris simply repeated the Tory line, that issues such as same-sex benefits and rights are "things we shouldn't even be talking about when the economy is in the state it is."

On Thursday, Attorney-General Boyd made a futile attempt to appease the bill's opponents by promising to drop the adoption provision.

The defeat to Bill 167 was a blow to organized labour. Already shellshocked by the NDP's "social contract" which cut $4 billion spending on social programs and outlawed collective bargaining in the public sector for three years, many labour groups said the defeat was a major setback to equality in the workforce. On Friday afternoon the Canadian Labour Congress, which represents more than 2 million workers, reaffirmed its solid commitment to same-sex legislation.

But chances of further legislation in Ontario are slim. Following the defeat, Attorney-General Boyd bitterly refused to say the issue was dead, although it's clear the NDP caucus will need some time to reconcile its differences. Both opposition leaders have stated they will not reintroduce same-sex legislation if they become premier of the province.

Different Approach in Quebec

"I don't think anybody in Ontario was expecting it," Douglas Buckley-Couvrette, of ACT-UP Montreal, said Saturday. "Ontario gays and lesbians were perhaps a bit politically naive, putting all their eggs in one basket... But then the NDP held a free vote and betrayed the gay and lesbian community. And Liberal Leader Lyn McLeod betrayed them again, by turning back on her word to vote for the bill."

Buckley-Couvrette said Bill 167 would have been the beginning of a "step-by-step process to end discrimination against gays and lesbians but it fell victim to political expediency."

"The legislature is forcing the duty upon the courts and what's going to happen is the courts will simply force the charter of rights on the legislature to stop discrimination," he added.

However, Buckley-Couvrette maintains that the issue of same-sex legislation in Quebec is less contentious.

"The gay and lesbian communities in Ontario and Quebec have chosen to take two different routes. In Quebec we chose to go through the Human Rights Commission because the charter gives us guaranteed rights. The commission reports as an impartial institution," he said.

Last November, the Quebec Human Rights Commission held public hearings on violence and discrimination against the province's lesbians and gays. Its findings, revealed in a report June 1, show that while in 1977 Quebec became the first jurisdiction in North America to acknowledge in its Charter of Rights and Freedoms the right to recognition and exercise of human rights without discrimination based on sexual orientation, the realities faced by gays and lesbians remain "largely unacceptable, despite some improvements in the last thirty years." Among its 41 recommendations were the same-sex benefits and adoption rights in Ontario's defeated legislation. (see sidebar)

"Should we, as a society, accept such a high rate of suicide among young homosexuals without attempting to intervene? Can we allow the almost daily commission of physical violence against gays and lesbians to continue? Should we accept the fact that some people regularly slip through the social safety net established under various laws because of their sexual orientation?" the report asks.

"Can we really say that we are living in a law-abiding society when so many of our fellow citizens must still live in the shadows, outside the law and with no security, simply because the way they are and their way of living do not match those of the majority?

"The answer to these questions, in the Committee's view, is a resolute no."

But perhaps the most central question here is whether the Quebec Human Rights Commission can effect any real change. Clearly the QHRC has had some difficulty protecting lesbians and gays. Since 1980 it has tried without success to compel the province to delete Article 137 from the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. That clause allows discrimination on the basis of age, physical disability, civil status, sex and sexual orientation in the areas of life insurance, retirement and pension plans and collective agreements.

And as it is, Quebec's governing Liberal Party is not inclined to pursue same-sex legislation too soon. Justice Minister Roger Lefebvre has already rejected the concept of redefining marriage and family to include gays and lesbians.

"That just shows how well the Liberals disregard the charter...it's sick, it's disgusting," Buckley-Couvrette said. "The Liberals in Quebec have the same conservative mentality as the Ontario Tories. They have no political will and are perpetuating discrimination against us.

"I hope when the Parti Quebecois takes over, as I'm sure they will, its first priority will be to implement the commission's recommendations. It will certainly be a struggle," he conceded, "but the commission's recommendations will eventually be heeded."

On June 1, the Quebec Human Rights Commission released its long-awaited report on violence and discrimination against lesbians and gays in the province. Its 41 recommendations include:

- That the Quebec government in accordance with its charter make a regulation to allow members of a same-sex couple to benefit, with full equality, from pension, retirement and insurance plans or from any other social benefits plan.
- That the government revise all its legislation to bring the notion of common-law spouse in line with the charter, so that gays and lesbians have the same rights as heterosexual common-law spouses.
- That the ministry of justice establish a voluntary registry of common-law couples. Registration should not be a factor in determining eligibility for social programs.
- That the ministry of immigration and cultural communities revise its practices, possibly by altering the applicable regualtions, to allow sponsorship by a same-sex spouse.
- That the ministry of health and social services give priority to the development and implementation of services to meet the particular needs of gays and lesbians.
- That the ministry of health and social services ensure the personnel working within the health and social services network be sensitized to and receive adequate training to respond to the needs of lesbians and gays.
- That the ministry of health provide adequate funding for women's health centres in Quebec to enable them to continue to develop specific expertise in lesbian health care and to serve the lesbian population effectively.

The report also documented the problems of harassment, discrimination and violence in relations between the gay and lesbian communities and the police.

Link file photo

Polls

An Angus Reid poll conducted before the second reading of Bill 167 showed 57 per cent of Canadians opposed to giving spousal benefits and adoption rights to gay and lesbian couples. According to the survey, same-sex legislation gained significant support across the country if the legislation didn't include the right to adopt. (This concern probably has more to do with uncertainty about what gay adoption means than with a fear for the fate of the traditional family.)

"Sure the issues can be separated but it is unfortunate that they have to be. Same-sex benefits are important but so are adoption rights," said Elana Wright of Montreal's Divers Cité. "For example, with lesbian

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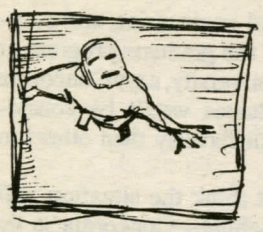


Stories TIMES CHANGE

(Brit summer time)

Peter was feeling very upset and having cried himself dry and sore from kicking everything that could be kicked, he walked home.

Hey wait. Where was that path? He spun around and frantically looked for those small beads of rock,

"Oh no!" he cried.

The rock was there but the path home, the old path that Peter had known since memory began...was gone.

Tony Cato

THE TINY

INDUSTRIES

OF LOVE

WILL MAKE US

DANGEROUS

YET

There is a Montréal where
Beauty, poor and mad is awash
with the timeless weight of stars.

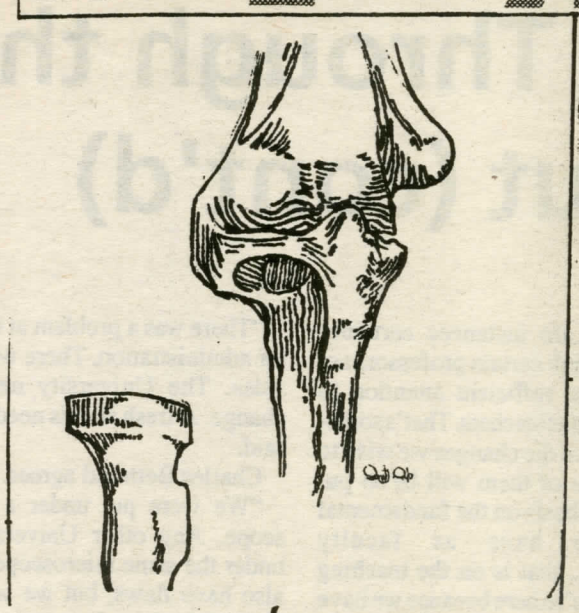
The window moon falls
on that bed we painted
in the grass of a fossilized summer ago.
Steam colors everything memory.

We bathe,
Sweat cities rise
on your skin and follow the curve
of your breathing,
as the air has taken
on your image—
the salt of aromatic labor.

From the incense hardwood
of our entanglement
I drink the cinnamon
politics of your love-making.

On that snow dawn
we were born into four more years
of socialist matrimony—I closed my eyes
and listened to the inhalation of morning,
tears of illiterate love.

Roddy Weatherbie



all graphics by Tony Cato

Love, Olive Bread, and the Ghost of Duplessis (excerpt)

Benoit was in bed. He lay on his back, with the sheets pulled up to his chin. I moved slowly to his bedside. Benoit's face was pale. his eyes stared upwards, at emptiness. He did not look at me when he said, "...there is no point....I can't decide." His voice was dry and cracked. Slowly, he turned to me with piercing eyes, "Tell me. Tell me what to do."
I stood there, not knowing what to say.
With great difficulty, he raised his index finger at me, "How can you live ....like that? Not knowing?"
The sun finished its day's work, and darkness fell on the little room.
I have never seen a dead man before.
I looked over at Benoit, but his face was indiscernible. There was no light.
Would the body smell? I sat by him on the bedside. The sheets were slightly creased, so I smoothed them out. I fluffed up the pillow.
Was Benoit still smiling? It seemed that the body was possessed. How can a dead man be possessed? I calmly told myself that nothing could possess a dead body but life. I repeated Duplessis' question, over and over again in my mind, always conscious of the body staring at me. How could I answer? In the shadows, I could see only his eyes. I lay near him. had he been alive, I would have felt his breath. I recalled Benoit warning that I too would become trapped. Outside, children playing rattled on a fence. It sounded like chains. I could not let this happen.
Benoit had once baked the best breads in all of Montréal, but then he had lost the will. He had lost Anne, he lost everything.
I cannot answer.
I cannot answer.
I cannot answer.
I will write a line everyday until I find the answer.
I cannot answer.

Dana Scholl

In Through the Out (cont'd)

"There are instances certainly where I think certain professors are not paying sufficient attention to their duties as teachers. That's something that in the changes we wish to make, one of them will be to put more emphasis on the fundamental role we have as faculty members,...that is on the teaching duties. We're here because we have students who want to learn something. We're supposed to be able to help them, that's the bottom line," he said.

Ajay Gupta, the president of the Commerce and Administration Student Association, is confident Concordia can get back on its feet.

"There was a problem at the senior administration. There were two sides. The University needed a change. A fresh start is needed," he said.

Charles Bertrand agrees.

"We were put under a microscope. Any other University put under the same microscope would also have flaws, but we were the ones...I think we have to move forward. I think we will be a stronger university as we move forward on the basis of the various recommendations," he said.

Bertrand still has not decided whether or not he will officially run for the position of rector, now open for nominations, but he is

quick to reassure that if he should leave office, he will help ensure the preservation of institutional memory, something the Cowan report said was lacking when Kenniff took office.

"I have no difficulty in leaving the position of interim Rector at whatever time is appropriate, and I would take all the time necessary to ensure that the person coming in as rector received all the information I had, all the necessary information to do the job, and of course, I wouldn't be leaving the university, and so I'd still be here if the person needed to talk to me about something at any time," he said.

Students angry (cont'd)

fied, especially since some Phd students stand to be set back in their thesis work if Profs. T.S. Sankar, S. Sankar and Swamy are dismissed.

"It's obvious that with this amount of scrutiny there will be doubts about the university, but the flipside is that with all the scrutiny the truth will come out. The quality of the teaching has not been affected," Leibu said. "When you hire a Concordia student they're just as good—if not better—than anyone else."

Urs Wyss, associate professor in mechanical engineering and coordinator of the graduate program at Queens University, says Concordia undergraduates won't be considered any differently than others in his books.

"I don't think the situation will affect anything—Concordia is no different from other universities. A student is a student, if it's one from Concordia or otherwise," Wyss said "We wouldn't select students on that basis."

-Additional reporting by Carol McQueen

Same-sex Discrimination (cont'd)

mothers, a woman can't even adopt (her partner's) child, even when she has raised it."

In fact, lesbians and gays everyday cannot make emergency medical decisions affecting their partners or their children because their relationships are not legally recognized. Also, provincial laws do not recognize gay partners as "family" or "spouse," so gays and lesbians do not have the same inheritance rights as heterosexuals.

The problem with the debate on same-sex legislation is conservative and religious right groups refuse to talk about the logistics of extending basic rights to lesbians and gays. And Bill 167 is not the only legislation mired in emotional and moralistic ideas of the threat to traditional family values. But the right's rhetoric about defending the family rings hollow when considering its treatment of other family-related legislation. Support for safe, affordable childcare comes from feminists, labour and the left. All REAL Women and the religious right have to offer mothers is criticism for their decision to work and support their families. But true concern for the family means supporting real families, not a rigid defence of an outdated definition.

Following the defeat of Ontario's same-sex legislation, the head of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women denounced the politicians who rejected the bill.

"How a woman defines her family is a fundamental right of the woman," Sunera Thobani said. "It is not up to the state to dictate to women patriarchal and oppressive definitions of the family. The issue is not of special rights. The issue is of ending discrimination against gays and lesbians."

Thobani added that women and other marginalized groups must fight the status quo.

"The fight we have been engaged in is the fight to change power relationships," she said.

• • •

Despite the setback in Ontario, federal Justice Minister Allan Rock plans to move ahead with changes to the Canadian Human Rights Act. The amendments would ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Although not as sweeping as the defeated Ontario bill, the federal government's changes must make a tempting target to the right. With the Reform Party's obvious devotion to defending its notion of the family and the disappearance of left-wing politics federally, the fight in Ottawa risks being as frustrating as that in Ontario.

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Three women Stingers in world championship final

by Frank Ivancic

On April 17, Concordia was busy importing some precious metals from the United States: gold and silver.

That was the day the Canadian women's hockey team defeated the United States 6-3 to capture its third consecutive women's world hockey championship and Concordia was well represented in the game.

With Stinger head coach Les Lawton behind the bench and Laura Leslie lacing up the skates for Canada, they went up against a U.S. team with Karyn Bye and Cammi Granato decked out in Red, White and Blue.

"It's weird when you see them passing, you want to be chums with them but you know you're on the opposite team," gold medalist Leslie said. "But the weirdest thing is when you're on the ice with them and you're jostling in front of the net or along the boards. You play it normally as if you don't know them but you get back on the bench and every now and then you get a flashback, 'that was Karyn' or 'that was Cammi.'"

Both Bye and Granato played well in the gold medal game, with each player collecting two points. Bye was also named to the All-Tournament team.

The American team had to settle for its third successive silver medal in the hands of the Canadians, but this was perhaps the most bitter loss of the three with the U.S. playing at home in Lake Placid, N.Y.

The crowd of 3,198 was largely made up of Canadian supporters whose shouts and cheers often drowned out the home fans.

Coach Lawton said:"I'm sure it was an 80% Canadian crowd so that was great for us. The U.S. team basically stepped onto the ice in their own backyard and got booed. I'm sure it had an effect on them."

He also said that he was impressed with the commitment and sacrifices shown by his players for the tournament and for their sport.

"It's a real, pure amateur sport," he said. "They're not working at their sport as much as some highly developed amateur athletes that are sponsored by the government and all the professional athletes who that's all they do. You're looking at people who have PhD's, a number of people who are school teachers, people who work in a variety of occupations. And besides that, they do their two or three hours a day on hockey whether it's in the gym, the weight room or on the ice."

Leslie, a graduating Stinger who holds Concordia degrees in Athletic Therapy and French Studies, found inspiration in her teammates' commitment to the game. Especially with the Olympics in Nagano, Japan just four years away she won't let herself slow down.

"It makes me feel that if I stay in the shape that I'm in and keep improving on my game, that I've got a lot of hockey in me at that level left," she said. "But down the road, the Olympics. They're there and they're mine for the picking.

"I started (training) two years ago for this (the worlds) and then when I found out we're an Olympic sport, I said I'm not stopping here. You can't just stop cold turkey, you get into a routine. You've developed a way of life that involves all this level of activity, you can't just stop. It just doesn't happen."

As far as the significance of Canada's "three-peat" performance on women's hockey in general, Leslie feels that it can only help. She says that with all the coverage afforded to the recent world championship it will only serve to increase enrollment in the lower levels of hockey and that more people will get involved.

"We had so much publicity during (the tournament) and there were so many people who watched on T.V., I'm impressed by that. There's an interest there, people really like it. I think it'll develop." She said.

The impact on Concordia's hockey program won't go unnoticed, either, according to Lawton. With members of the university's faculty or players from the Stingers on the Canadian or American teams participating in each of the three world championships, Concordia has built a solid reputation.

"When people look for a hockey program, they'll look at Concordia." Lawton said. "We've done extremely well and we've graduated some great players. We've put a lot of time and effort into our program. We're well known across the country right now. But again, we can't rest on that, we've still got to be leaders. We've got to be a step ahead on everybody else."

A league of their own

by Marie-Chantal Côté

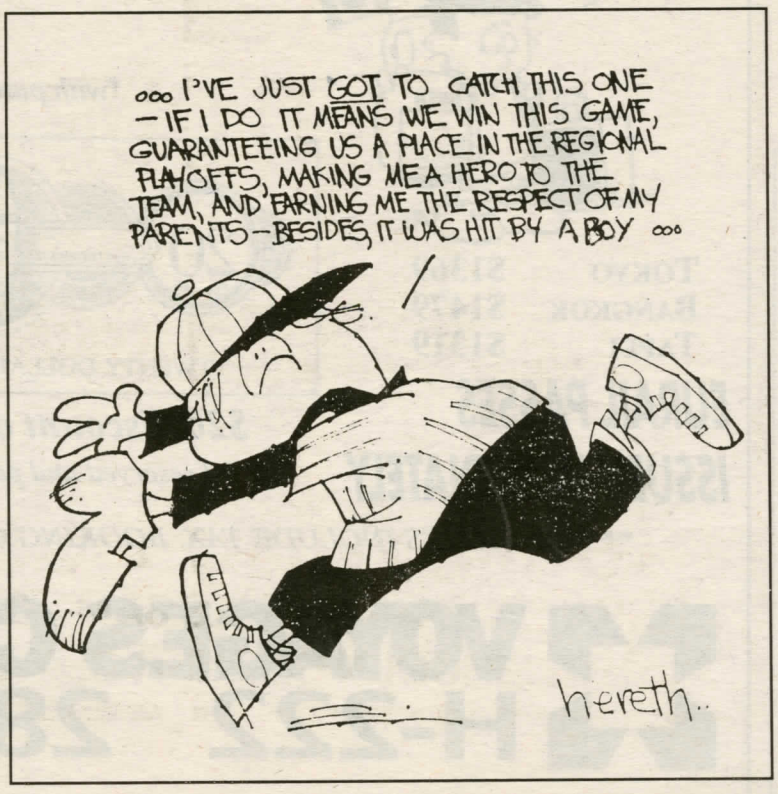
After two decades of summer ball hockey at Concordia, female players finally have a chance to compete against one another in a division of their own.

Last Friday, the Cowpatties, the Trekkers, the Sharks and the Stray Cats met in the season opener of the first ever women's division of the intramural ball hockey league at Concordia.

The ball hockey league, which welcomes both Concordia and non-Concordia students, was first started in the mid-seventies in order to provide a certain continuity between the end and the beginning of ice hockey.season.

"What we wanted to do is keep people's interest in hockey and insure a return for the players who had played in the intramural league," said one of the league's co-ordinator, Ray Kirkwood.

Ever since the creation of the league, men were always predominant, although certain women showed growing interest for it.


... I'VE JUST GOT TO CATCH THIS ONE — IF I DO IT MEANS WE WIN THIS GAME, GUARANTEEING US A PLACE IN THE REGIONAL PLAYOFFS, MAKING ME A HERO TO THE TEAM, AND EARNING ME THE RESPECT OF MY PARENTS — BESIDES, IT WAS HIT BY A BOY ...
hereth..

"There's always been interest by women but not at a number where we would actually be able to form teams or like this year, a division," explained Kirkwood. "If women were interested in previous years, and wanted and were committed to play ball hockey, they basically joined a men's team."

However, women found it very difficult to keep up with the running speed of men who tend to have quicker two or three first steps.

"It is a problem when you run for the ball," explained Tamara McKernan, a graduating Stinger rearguard, who is currently co-captain of the Cowpatties. "There aren't many women that will beat men at a sprint race."

Last year, with the help of the varsity team and because of a growing interest by female players, a full team of women was formed and competed in the recreational division.

"At first, some teams were very rude," said McKernan. "They thought it was a joke to play a girl's team, but we have some talented players and we earned some respects."

However, the team terminated its first season with a record of 1-11, one which reflected the inequalities between the men's teams and the women's.

Attempting to solve that problem, the co-ordinators of the league decided to create a separate division for the women, in order to give talented players like Stingers Ginnie Brule and Marie-Claude Roy a chance to improve their play.

After the first regular season game, female ball hockey players are very satisfied with the turnout. The all- women teams now boast 63 regular participants.

"It opens up another sport for women and it is an excellent workout," concluded McKernan.

You can check out the women ball hockey players in action every Friday night at the Loyola rink, between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., until August 12th.

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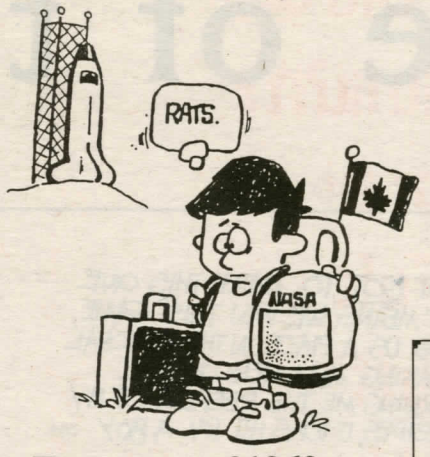

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